

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for automating the creation and maintenance of ~~an i2 Demand Manager database~~ a database application and retrieving data therefrom, comprising:
 - building ~~i2 Demand Manager~~ said application persistence and measure databases, including creating SQL and generating a first set of programs to retrieve data from source systems;
 - storing said data in configuration tables;
 - activating a second set of programs to read said configuration tables and create XML files and SQL statements;
 - formatting said data based on defined data measures; and
 - loading said data into said ~~i2 Demand Manager database~~ application.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein loading said data further comprises generating control tables to control said loading, including determining which of said data measures are to be loaded and when loading occurs.
3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said configuration tables further include: control, product, dimension, level, hierarchy, user ID, logging, and security tables.
4. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising running a script to execute said first and second set of programs.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 including inputting said XML files into ~~an i2a~~ utility file to build said ~~i2-Demand Manager~~ database application.
6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said programs input measure data for said measure database, said measure data residing in staging tables and fact tables.
7. (original) The method of claim 3 including inputting spreadsheet information into said product tables, dimension tables, level tables, and hierarchy tables.
8. (original) The method of claim 1 including generating and providing a warehouse manager program to facilitate data storage and retrieval.
9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising building said persistence database using ~~an i2a~~ utility program, such that said configuration files are inputs to said i2-utility program.
10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9 including referencing said XML files in said configuration files, converting said XML files to meta data, and providing said i2-utility program with said SQL statements.
11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 further including installing said configuration files including installing information for location for middleware components and ~~DB/2 aliases~~ other databases in an open communication network.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said XML file defines a skeleton of said database, including dimension, levels, and measures.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein loading said data into said ~~i2~~ ~~Demand Manager~~ database application includes generating a load file for loading hierarchy instances and targets, and placing said load file in an administrative directory.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein said dimension ~~table~~ tables ~~includes~~ include:

- a master dimension source table;
- a table holding views;
- a table holding hierarchy level information for each dimension;
- a table containing information to each level;
- a table containing information to each measure;
- a table holding lookup information for location;
- a table holding information for level members;
- a table holding data for intersections of said database;
- tables containing user ID, password, and security information; and
- tables holding each process and each event of each process.

15. (original) The method of claim 1 further including generating measure configuration tables comprising:

- generating a master measure source table;
- holding dimensionality information for each of said measures;

addressing level members; and

generating measure data tables.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 including generating programs to read said master measure source table and said dimensionality information, said programs automatically generate SQL for said tables.

17. (original) The method of claim 3 further including generating logger tables to log process or program execution, data loading tables, and forecast measure initialization tables.

18. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing a method for generating a set of tables and programs to automate the creation and recreation of ~~an i2 Demand Manager~~ database application, the computer readable program code means in said computer program product comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect building i2 ~~Demand Manager~~ application persistence and measure databases, including creating SQL and generating a first set of programs to retrieve data from source systems;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect storing said data in configuration tables during said building;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect activating a second set of programs to read said configuration tables and create XML files and SQL statements;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect formatting said data based on defined data measures; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect loading said data into said ~~i2 Demand Manager~~ database application.

19. (original) The computer program product of claim 18 including computer readable program code means for generating said configuration tables further comprising: control, product, dimension, level, hierarchy, user ID, logging, and security tables.

20. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 18 including computer readable program code means for inputting said XML files into ~~an i2a~~ utility file to build said ~~i2 Demand Manager~~ database application.